(a) whether manure is stocked for sale in Village Offices as suggested at the Standing Finance Committee meeting held prior to the last Budget Session;

(b) if so, where?

Mr. K. Krishna Warriar (*Director of Agriculture*).—(a) No.

(b) Vide answer to (a).

Mr. A. Narayana Menon (*Vyttila*).—Will the Government be pleased to give effect to the suggestion contained in the question?

Mr. K. Krishna Warriar (*Director of Agriculture*).—At the time of the last Budget Standing Finance Committee it was pointed out that no credit sales can be undertaken by the Government direct and that work should be undertaken by co-operative societies. So the suggestion was not accepted.

Mr. A. Narayana Menon (*Vyttila*).—It is not credit sale that is intended. I want to know whether manure can be sold on cash. Cannot the Government undertake that?

Mr. K. Krishna Warriar (*Director of Agriculture*).—If there is any facility in the various village offices this can be arranged.

Seeds and manure—Cultivators—Supply of.

88. **Mr. A. Eachara Menon** (*Chittur Rural*).—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether they have attempted to know since their reply 'No' to the question, whether they are aware that seeds and manures are given on credit to the bonafide cultivators in British India, how that Government assist the cultivators with seeds and manure;

(2) if not, will they be pleased to enquire at the office of their Demonstrator at Pollachi;

(3) were the cultivators in the State not being given manures, etc., on credit on the responsibility of the Inspectors;

(4) were there any bad debts;

(5) will the Government be now pleased to advance what they call taccavi loans to purchase seeds and manures to bonafide cultivators as they do in British India?

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Mr. K. Krishna Warriar *(Director of Agriculture).*—(1) Seeds and manures are not given on credit to cultivators in British India.

The Madras Agricultural Department has only seed depots. No credit sales are allowed.

(2) The matter was enquired at the Demonstrator's Office in Pollachi and Palghat.

(3) Yes.

(4) There were no bad debts, but there used to be long delays in repayment.

(5) Provisions for the issue of agricultural loans similar to taccavi loans to ryots, have been made in the Land Revenue Manual (Article 254).

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur Rural).*—With reference to sub-division (5) there is very great difference between the question and the answer. Do they differentiate between ryots and cultivators?

Mr. K. Krishna Warriar *(Director of Agriculture).*—I do not think there is much difference between these two.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur Rural).*—In the British parts loans are given for the benefit of the cultivators on the security of other persons. Here the agricultural loans are given only to ryots who pay a property tax of at least Rs. 10. May I know whether the British practice exists here?

Mr. K. Krishna Warriar *(Director of Agriculture).*—I am not aware of that.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur Rural).*— Will the Government be pleased to give loans to cultivators on their own responsibility?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Diwan Peishkar).*—All kinds of loans are given to cultivators. The only thing is that they have to give security. If no security is taken no amount will be repaid.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur Rural).*—Government money is as good as my own money. There is no question about security. What I want to know is whether the Government are giving small loans of Rs. 50 on personal security?

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Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*).—Yes, we give small amounts of Rs. 50 on personal security?

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (*Anthikkad*).—What are these taccavi loans?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*).—It is a Mysore loan which is the same as our agricultural loan. It is a loan pledged on the future crop and is the same as our agricultural loan.

Improved methods of cultivation—Introduction of.

89. Mr. A. Narayana Menon (*Vyttila*).—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether improved methods of cultivation were introduced in any land in the State in 1112; if so, what is the total extent of the land; what cultivation is carried on in such lands;

(b) does the agricultural department possess any agency to introduce scientific and improved methods of cultivation in the State; if so, how many men work in this agency; where are they posted now; what work has been done by each in 1112 and in what form;

(c) has the agricultural department any well defined programme of work to bring about improvement in the cultivation of arable and dry lands in the State; if so, what is the programme; when was it formulated and how was it put into practical work; was non-official co-operation sought for this work?

Mr. K. Krishna Warriar (*Director of Agriculture*).—(a) Yes. 18 acres nearly; paddy, sugar-cane and cocoanut.

(b) Yes. 6 Agricultural Inspectors and 3 Specialists, one Agricultural Inspector to each Taluk has been appointed. The Head-quarters of the Specialists are in the Central Farm, but they tour about the whole of the State. The work done by the Agricultural Inspectors and Specialists are briefly given in the Administration Reports. The following are the main items of work.

1. Demonstration in ryots' lands.
2. Lectures in rural areas.
3. Publication of leaflets.
4. Suply of seeds, manures and plants.

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